

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 /026 W

----- 115377

R 280730Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3977

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 4528

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS; OREP (ALBERT, CARL)

SUBJECT: CODEL ALBERT'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

1. SUMMARY. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION OF 14 CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR WIVES, STAFF MEMBERS, AND WHITE HOUSE, STATE DEPARTMENT AND

USAF ESCORTS, LED BY HOUSE SPEAKER CARL ALBERT, LEFT YUGOSLAVIA AT END OF PRODUCTIVE AND HIGHLY USEFUL SEVEN-DAY VISIT. HIGHLIGHT OF VISIT WAS TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TITO. CODEL ALSO MET WITH OTHER YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS AT HIGHEST LEVEL AS WELL AS ASSEMBLY DELEGATES AND PAID VISITS TO THREE YUGOSLAV REPUBLICS AFTER INCNIAL TWO-DAY STOP IN BELGRADE. MEMCONS OF ALL MEETINGS REPORTED SEPTELS. CODEL MEMBERS AND YUGOSLAVS BOTH EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WHITH RESULTS OF VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. CODEL ALBERT WAS MET ON ARRIVAL IN BELGRADE AUGUST 19 BY SFRY ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT GLIGOROV, OFFICIAL HOST, AND HIGH-RANKING YUGOSLAV DELEGATION FROM ASSEMBLY AND GOY. IN BELGRADE AND ENVIRONS. CODEL HELD SEVERAL HOURS OF FORMAL TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION AS WELL AS A HOUR-LONG DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC, VISITED BELGRADE AGRICULTURAL KOMBINAT (PKB), AND TOURED MILITARY MUSEUM IN OLD BELGRADE FORTRESS. IN CEREOMONY ON MT. AVALA, THE SPEAKER, IN PRESENCE OF CODEL, YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS AND MILITARY HONOR GUARD, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAID WREATH ON TOMB OF UNKNOWN HERO.

3. ON AQYUST 21, CODEL TRAVELED TO ZAGREB FOR MEETING WITH CROATIAN ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION, FOLLOWED BY LUNCH GIVEN BY CROATIAN ASSEMBLY VICE PRESIDENT MARKOVIC. CODEL LADIES PARTICIPATED IN SEPARATE PROGRAM TOURING ZAGREB HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SITES. CODEL CONTINUED IN AFTERNOON TO DUBROVNIK. PRESIDENT OF SFRY ASSEMBLY'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MIHAJLO JAVORSKI AND MRS. JAVORSKI, FOREIGN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE PRESIDENT BORIS SNUDERL, LCY CC MEMBER AND MRS. DIMCE BELOVSKI, DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE IN FSFA SVETOZAR STARCEVIC AND OTHER YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS ESCORTED CODEL ON PORTION OF VISIT OUTSIDE BELGRADE.

4. CODEL TRAVELED TO MONTENGRO AUGUST 22 STOPPING FIRST AT KOTOR, WHERE MONTENEGRIN ASSEMBLY VICE PRESIDENT VUKADINOVIC GREETED THEM AND JOINED PARTY AS EXCORT DURING VISIT TO HIS REPUBLIC. AFTER BRIEF TOUR OF KOTOR, CODEL CONTINUED TO CETINJE FOR BRIEF TALKS WITH CITY OFFICIALS, AND TOUR OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SITES, INCLUDING ORTHODOX MONASTERY WHERE DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED BY BISHOP DANILO. MAYOR GAVE LUNCH IN CITY PARK AT WHICH CODEL WAS ENTERTAINED WITH YUGOSLAV FOLK DANCING AND MUSIC. VISIT TO MONTENEGRO ENDED WITH RECEPTION AT SVETI STEFAN GICN BY VICE PRESIDENT VUKADINOVIC AND ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY AND REPUBLIC'S GOVERNMENT.

5. ON AUGUST 23, CODEL WAS RECEIVED BY PREMIER BIJEDIC AND MEMBERS OF CABINET AT KUPARI ON OUTSKIRTS OF DUBROVNIK FOR 90 MINUTE DISCUSSION PRIMARILY OF BILATERAL ISSUES, INCLUDING NEW INITIATIVES IN ECONOMIC FIELD.

6. ON AUGUST 25 CODEL TRAVELED TO BRIONI FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TITO WHICH LASTED ABOUT TWO HOURS. MADAME BROZ RECEIVED LADIES IN SEPARATE MEETING. PRESIDENT GLIGOROV HOSTED LUNCH FOR CODEL ON BRIONI. US AMBASSADOR GDR AND MRS. JOH SHERMAN COOPER, WHO WERE VACATIONING ON ISLAND, TITO'S CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND OTHER OFFICIALS WERE ALSO INVITED.

7. LATER IN DAY, CODEL JOURNEYED TO JUBLJANA FOR MEETING WITH SLOVENIAN ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNMENT GROUP FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH SFRY PRESIDENCY MEMBER EDVARD KARDELJ. IN EVENING, CODEL FLEW BACK TO DUBROVNIK.

8. ON AUGUST 26, CODEL DEPARTED TO BARCELONA.

9. COMMENT: CODEL MEMBERS REPEATEDLY SPOKE OF FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA MADE ON THEM. AFTER VISITS TO SOVIET UNION AND ROMANIA, CODEL TOOK NOTE OF GREATER FREEDOM

AND PROSPERITY YUGOSLAVS ENJOY. CONGRESSMEN WERE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY KARDEL'S PRESENTATION ON SELF-MANAGEMENT, AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH DIRECTNESS AND CANDOR OF YUGOSLAV REPLIES TO MOST OF THEIR QUESTIONS IN ALL MEETINGS FROM TITO ON DOWN. THEY ENJOYED INFORMAL DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES WITH MEMBERS OF YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL ESCORT, AND IN CONTINUOUS ROUND OF AD HOC TALKS BEFORE AND AFTER FORMAL MEETINGS AND SOCIAL OCCASIONS. CODEL SPOKE WELL OF EMBASSY'S, ZAGREB'S AND USIS EFFORTS IN BRINGING OFF SUCCESSFUL VISIT.

10. YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE HAVE HAD CHANCE TO TALK WERE SIMILARLY PLEASED WITH OUTCOME OF VISIT. GOY OBVIOUSLY MADE EXTRA EFFORT TO OPEN ALL DOORS FOR CODEL AND BE FORTHCOMING, NOTING HIGH LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AND THEIR REPEATED REFERENCES TO INCREASING CONGRESSIONAL ROLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. VISIT WAS EDUCATION FOR YUGOSLAVS IN AMERICAN DEMOCRACY; THEY WERE STRUCK BY SPEAKER'S MANNER OF CHAIRING CODEL'S PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSIONS AND DORTHRIGHT PRESENTATIONS WHICH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS MED ON MATTERS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THEM AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS. YUGOSLAV SEEMED PLEASED BY REFERENCES IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF TITO'S STATESMANSHIP, CONGRESSIONAL BACKING FOR USG SUPPORT OF YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENCE, AND DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN FURTHER US-YUGOSLAV TIES.

1. WRITTEN AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA COVERAGE OF VISIT WAS EXTENSIVE; PICTURES AND REPORTS PROMINENTLY APPEARED IN PRESS AND VISIT GOT CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE ON TELEVISION NEWS BROADCASTS. MEDIA COVERAGE WILL BE REPORTED IN GREATER DETAIL IN USIS FIELD MESSAGE.

12. EMBASSY CONSIDERS VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL IN ESTABLISHING USEFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT AND IMPORTANT, REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATION FROM CONGRESS. YUGOSLAVS EMPHASIZED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STRENGTHENING OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS, INTEREST IN PURCHASING US MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AND PET INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS. CODEL EDUCATED YUGOSLAVS ON US SENSITIVITIES OVER PURETO RICO, UPCOMING ISSUES IN US, AND PORTUGAL. BOTH SIDES SPOKE FAVORABLY OF OUTCOME OF VISIT AND WE BELIEVE RESULTS WILL HAVE LONGER-TERM POSITIVE IMPACT ON BILATERALS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BELGRA04528
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750298-0232
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975087/aaaaafhy.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL ALBERT'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA
TAGS: OREP, (ALBERT, CARL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006